Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1904.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch,

April, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

The following is my Report, as Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st last, together with the usual Tabular Statements giving the Births, Deaths and Cases of Infectious Sickness which occurred in the Urban District during that period.

The total number of Births registered was 113, or a rate of 23·9 per thousand of the population, and the number of Deaths 99, or a rate of 20·2 per thousand, against 73 or a rate of 15·4 per thousand for the previous year. There were 19 deaths at the Union Workhouse and the Cottage Hospital of persons belonging to other Districts, so the number of deaths in the Urban District proper was 80, or a rate of 16·9 per thousand of the population, comparing with 13·5 for the previous year. Of the deaths due to Infectious Disease, 1 occurred from Diphtheria, 1 from Erysipelas, 1 from Puerperal Fever, and 10 from Consumption. The number of deaths among infants under 1 year of age was 21, or a rate of 185·8 per thousand births.

Reference to Table III. will show that there were 37 cases of Infectious Disease notified in the course of the year, namely : 2 Diphtheria, 7 Erysipelas, 5 Scarlet Fever, 5 Enteric Fever, 1 Puerperal Fever, and 17 Chicken Pox. The latter was made notifiable in the early part of the year, owing to Small-Pox having appeared in this and other Districts in the County. Of the 5 cases of Enteric, one was imported from another District and one occurred at the Union Workhouse, the other three cases occurred in houses which were badly ventilated. Influenza has now apparently become endemic, for it now appears as an epidemic year

by year in the winter months, and 2 deaths were registered as having occurred from this disease. Consumption also accounts for no less than 10 deaths during the year, this is a large increase on previous years, and seems to have some relationship to the recurrent epidemics of Influenza, which renders those attacked iu the badly ventilated cottages particularly prone to the disease. The subject of overcrowding and bad ventilation of Cottage property has been brought before the notice of the Council in the course of the year, and in one instance two rows of Cottages were condemned, with the result that they were dismantled, partially taken down, rebuilt and thoroughly ventilated. It is moreover the intention to proceed with this very necessary work of Sanitary improvement, and in the course of the year 1905 a considerable number of Cottages, which are in an unsatisfactory condition, will be treated in a like manner.

The various Lodging-houses in the town have been frequently inspected and reported upon. They are all antiquated, and until some better scheme for the accommodation of Lodgers is worked out by the Council, means have been taken to prevent as far as possible any

overcrowding, and to secure for the inmates efficient ventilation.

The Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Slaughter-houses, Workshops, and Bake-houses, have been inspected from time to time, and were generally found satisfactory.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. R. WILLIAMS.

TABULAR STATEMENTS.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in District
				Under 1 year of age		At all ages.		
		Number	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1894	4535	131	28·8	24	183·2	89	19·6	
1895	,,	150	33	25	166·6	93	20·5	
1896	,,	151	33·2	17	112·5	73	16	
1897	,,	99	21·8	21	210	85	18·4	
1898	,,	138	30·4	21	152·1	96	21·1	
1899	,,	128	28·2	19	141·4	110	24·2	
1900	,,	138	30·4	18	141·4	100	22	
1901	4722	112	23·7	20	178	97	20·5	
1902	,,	104	22	10	76·9	80	16·9	
1903	,,	125	26·4	11	88	73	15·4	
Averages for years 1894—1903	4591	127·6	27·79	18·6	145	89·6	19·4	
1904	4722	113	23·9	21	185·8	99	20·2	27

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)...4247

Total Population at all ages 4722
Number of inhabited houses 1009
Average number of persons per house 4·6
} At Census of 1901.

TABLE III.

—o—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65
Diphtheria	2			2		
Erysipelas	7					7
Scarlet Fever	5			5		
Enteric Fever	5				2	3
Puerperal Fever ...	1				1	
Varicella	17			12	5	
Totals	37			19	8	10

Isolation Hospital—Nottingham Road.

TABLE IV.

—o—

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1904.

Causes of Death	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined ages.							Total deaths in public institutions in the Dist'ct
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
Whooping Cough ...	2	2						
Diphtheria and membranous croup ...	1			1				
Epidemic Influenza...	2					2		1
Diarrhœa	2	1					1	
Enteritis	9	3		1		3	2	1
Puerperal Fever ...	1				1			1
Erysipelas ...	1					1		1
Other septic diseases	3		1		1		1	1
Phthisis	10			1	1	8		2
Other tubercular diseases ...	2	2						
Cancer, malignant disease... ...	2					1	1	1
Bronchitis	7	2				2	3	
Pneumonia ..	11	3	3			3	2	1
Pleurisy	1						1	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...	1						1	
Alcoholism / Cirrhosis of liver ...	3					1	2	2
Heart diseases .	6					3	3	1
Accidents	4			1			3	1
Suicides	1					1		
All other causes ...	30	8		1		4	17	14
All causes ...	99	21	4	5	3	29	37	27